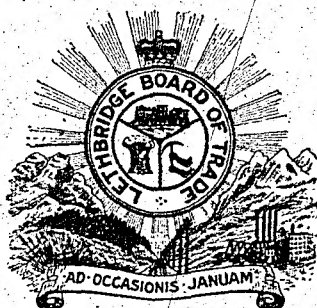


LETHBRIDGE. BOARD OF TRADE.

Facts for the settler about the Lethbridge
district . . . 1910.

Facts for the Settler
about the
LETHBRIDGE DISTRICT
Sunny Southern Alberta
Canada



Lethbridge, Alta., April 15th, 1910

This pamphlet is issued by the Lethbridge Board of Trade, the purpose being to tell the TRUTH about the Lethbridge District of Sunny Southern Alberta.

The TRUTH is good enough, and we fear the man who exaggerates, more than we do the knocker.

Every statement in this pamphlet is guaranteed to be the truth without exaggeration.

LETHBRIDGE BOARD OF TRADE.

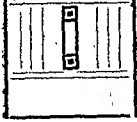
J. W. McNicol.

Secretary.

2

DAILY
HERALD
PRESSES

LETHBRIDGE.
ALTA. - CAN.



Dry and Irrigated Farming

There is today no place in the West where farming of all kinds can be carried on with more profit, for the capital and work invested, than in this district.

Here there is a large irrigation system owned and operated by the Alberta Railway and Irrigation Co., this however does not mean that irrigation is necessary for successful farming.

Farming without irrigation or dry farming as it is called to distinguish it from irrigated, is the back bone of the district.

Of the 251,600 acres in wheat, oats and barley in the district last year only some 30,000 was on irrigated land, the balance of 221,600 acres being on dry land, without irrigation.

Such crops as Alfalfa, Timothy, Sugar Beets, Small Fruits and Market Gardens will, however, give a larger yield with irrigation making it very profitable to use for these crops.

THE GRAIN CROP

Southern Alberta is noted as a Wheat District, and especially as a winter wheat district, being the home of the celebrated Alberta Red Winter Wheat. Other grains can be grown here to advantage, but it is sometimes said that the farmers here are wheat crazy and other grains are not given a fair show being usually put in because the farmer thinks when he gets ready to sow it is too late to sow wheat.

The Government Crop Report for the district (Crop Districts 1-2-3-4-5) is as follows for the year 1909:

	Acres	Bushels	Average
Spring Wheat	140,866	2,887,818	20.63
Winter Wheat	53,436	1,408,474	26.36
Oats	54,430	2,027,167	37.26
Barley	2,860	79,419	27.76
	251,602	6,402,887	

The above are the averages for all, the good, bad and indifferent, and there are many who did better than the general average and some who did not do as well.

60 bushels of wheat and 125 of oats are yields that a few men got, there were a great many who got 35 to 40 of wheat and 60 to 80 of oats and there is nothing to hinder any man doing as well as the best of these as it is not a matter of luck, but of careful intelligent farming.

There is no difficulty about the proper method to follow in order to secure the best results and Mr. Fairfield of the Experimental Farm, writes as follows regarding it:



Breaking Raw Land in the Leithbridge District

PREPARATION OF RAW LAND FOR THE FIRST CROP OF GRAIN

"Break the ground during the wet season of May and June and roll it down flat immediately after the plow, this connects the furrow slice soil with the sub-soil and facilitates the rotting process.

"The common practice is to break 4 to 5 inches deep, further cultivation should be shallow. No attempt should be made to cut through the sod with the discs but merely enough to form a mulch on top of the sod to prevent rapid evaporation. If one is prepared to do this surface cultivation after a rain while the sod is moist, the land will work more economically and to better advantage. Enough work should be done to get sufficient loose soil to fill in the cracks between the sods.

"If this is done the sod will rot sufficiently during the summer to be loose and in good condition for growing a crop the following Spring.

"If Winter wheat is to be sown, the best time to put it in is during the month of August, but if Spring grain is to be sown, the land is allowed to lie in this condition till the following April when a good harrowing immediately after the frost draws out will prepare the land sufficiently for the seed drill. For best results from Spring grain the land should be given the same surface preparation in July as if Winter wheat was to be sown.

"Backsetting, although not commonly in vogue, is a practice that cannot be too highly recommended. The only change necessary in breaking is that it should be done shallower, 2 1-2 inches if possible.

"The sods are rolled down and in the latter part of July the land is plowed again about two inches deeper than it was broken or as deep as the root fiber has rotted in the sub-soil which is usually about two inches, the land is immediately harrowed after this plowing or if necessary harrowed and disced.

"Considerable land during the past few years has been broken in April and immediately sown with grain. Although fair results are often obtained in this way, it is not a practice that can be recommended, for if the season is dry the resulting crop may be disappointing, and on account of the sods not having had a chance to rot properly, the second crop is not nearly as good as after breaking the land in May or June and allowing to lie fallow all summer.

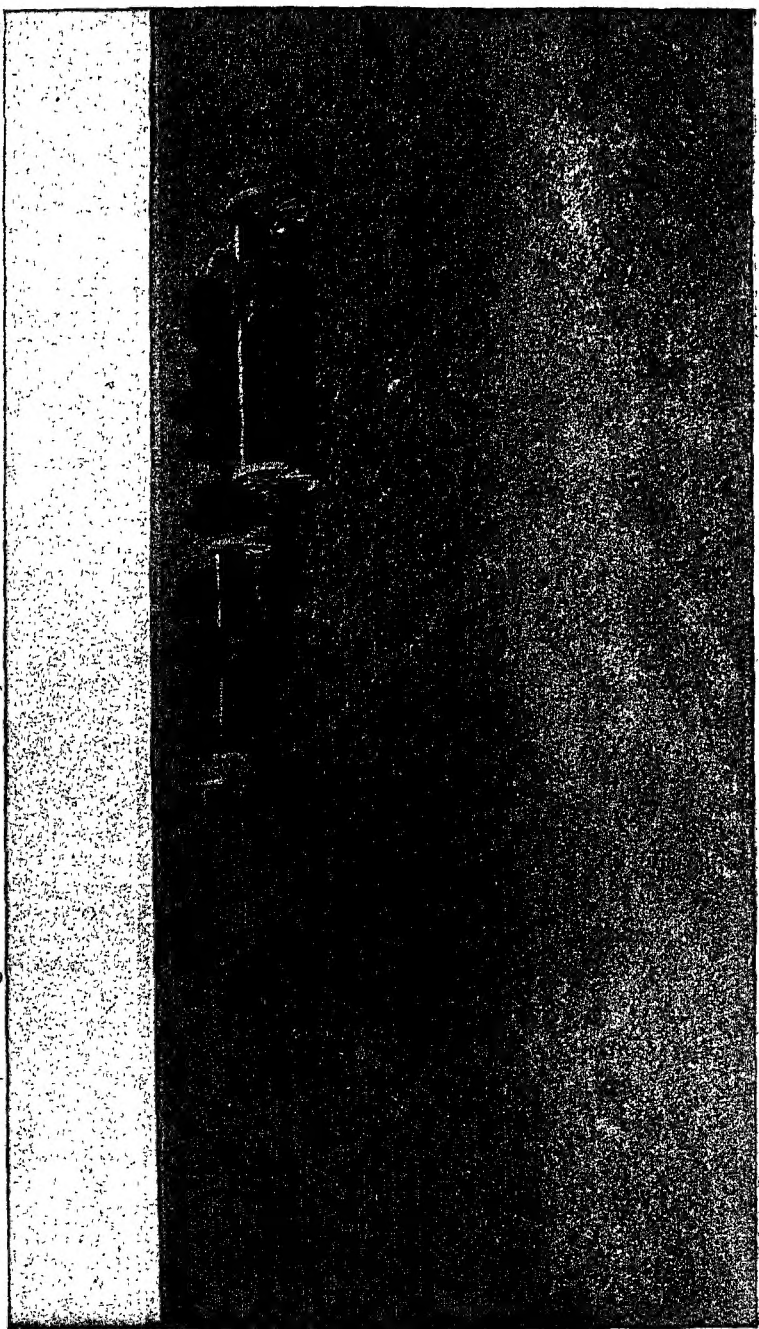
"The best amount of seed to sow per acre in this district has not yet been fully determined, however, about 60 lbs. of Winter wheat and about 70 of Spring wheat, oats or barley is probably not far from the right amount."

COST OF OBTAINING THE FIRST CROP

The cost of obtaining the first crop is a question in which new settlers are always interested and was about as follows, per acre, when let by contract last year:

The farmer does not need to pay this out, however, as he can do a large amount of the work himself, and the second crop will not cost as much as the first, as a common practice is to put the second crop in the stubble with a disc seeder without plowing.

143368



Seeding at Lethbridge

Breaking new land	\$3.50
Double discing75
Double harrowing50
Seed	1.25
Seeding50
Cutting and stooking	1.25
Twine50
Threshing from stook (30 bush.)	2.70

Total, per acre	\$10.95
-----------------	---------

AVERAGE PRICE OF GRAIN

The average price of grain at the elevators here the past season has been as follows per bushel: Wheat 85 cents; barley 40 cents and oats 28 cents, which figuring only the average yield gives a good profit on the first crop and a larger one on the second.

ALFALFA

Alfalfa, undoubtedly the best forage plant known to modern farming, is grown here most successfully.

On irrigated land 3 to 6 tons per acre and on dry land 2 to 4 tons per acre are average crops per year and this when baled sells for \$12 to \$14 per ton.

Soil for inoculation can be obtained from the Experimental farm without charge.

Mr. Fairfield of the Experimental Farm in his pamphlet "Alfalfa Growing in Southern Alberta" concludes as follows:

"Use summer fallow on land in which root crops have been grown the previous season. Do not plow it but prepare a shallow seed bed. Inoculate the land with about 150 pounds of soil from an old alfalfa field and work it in while the seed bed is being prepared. Sow the seed in the latter part of May or early in June at the rate of 20 pounds per acre on irrigated land and less on dry land.

"Do not use a nurse crop.

"The first season do not neglect to run the mowing machine over the land before the weeds get too high and cut it a second time if practicable."

SUGAR BEETS

Eighteen miles to the south of Lethbridge at Raymond is a large Beet Sugar Factory.

Beets can be raised on new land if after breaking it up from the sod a crop of grain is raised and then summer fallowed for one year.

One man can take care of about 15 acres and help can be obtained to take care of more.

On dry land the crop averages 8 to 10 tons per acre and on irrigated land has gone as high as 22 tons per acre.

It costs about \$26.00 to raise a crop of 10 tons to the acre, a larger tonnage costing a little more, and the factory pays \$5.00 per ton for the beets at the factory.



Oats in the Leithbridge District of Sunny Southern Alberta.

SMALL FRUITS

All kinds of Small Fruits grow here to perfection. Raspberries, Strawberries, Currants, etc., all do well and are paying propositions either on a large scale or in the kitchen garden.

Mr. H. P. Gatrell had six acres in strawberries and raspberries in 1909 and this year is increasing it to 12 acres.

He is situated three miles from Lethbridge and writes as follows:

"This portion of Southern Alberta is eminently adapted for the growing of small fruit, particularly raspberries and strawberries.

"When its capabilities in that respect are more thoroughly appreciated it will be the principal strawberry growing district in Western Canada not excepting the famous B. C. fruit lands.



Picking Strawberries on Mr. Gatrell's Farm

"Strawberries grown here and shown at the Dominion Fair in Calgary in 1908 were pronounced by all who saw them to surpass any others in the exhibition both in appearance and flavor.

I have been growing both berries for the market here for three years and am more satisfied each year and this year am doubling the acreage.

"There is a splendid market for all the fruit that can be raised and prices are excellent, strawberries averaged last year \$3.40 per crate of 24 quarts wholesale and retailed at \$4.25 per crate. At the same time imported berries were selling at \$3.25 to \$3.50 retail. Raspberries sold for about \$2.70 per crate of 24 pints wholesale.



Harvesting Spring Wheat in Sunny Southern Alberta

"The strawberry plants when set out will bear well for two years and taking one year with another the expense will be about \$60 per acre and picking will cost two cents per quart.

"With care and attention a man can easily realize a profit of \$300 to \$500 per acre per year.

"I am working on irrigated land but if a deep rooted variety be selected and planted early in the Spring just before our heavy rains in May and the ground kept thoroughly cultivated to hold the moisture, berries will do well on dry land.

"A farmer a few miles north of Lethbridge to whom I supplied plants has an excellent stand of both berries and had an abundant supply of fruit last year on dry land, and our rainfall last year was less than the average."

MARKET GARDENS

Most, if not all of the Market Gardens here are on irrigated land as the returns from the garden will be larger than without irrigation and in fact most market gardens with which we are familiar in other districts have some means of putting on water artificially.

All kinds of vegetables such as corn, lettuce, peas, cabbage, cauliflower, cucumbers, celery and all roots grow here to perfection and there is a much larger local demand for them than the local supply, large quantities being shipped in from a distance.

With the long bright sunny days and plenty of water from the ditch, there is an excellent chance for the practical gardener who is willing to work.

KITCHEN GARDENS

Any farmer with a little energy can have a kitchen garden which will supply his table with all kinds of fresh vegetables in their season, stock his cellar with them for the winter, and have a surplus which can be sold for more than the cost of running the garden.

DAIRY FARMING

Dairy and milk farms are profitable undertakings in this district, the mild winters robbing them of much of the hard work that usually goes with them.

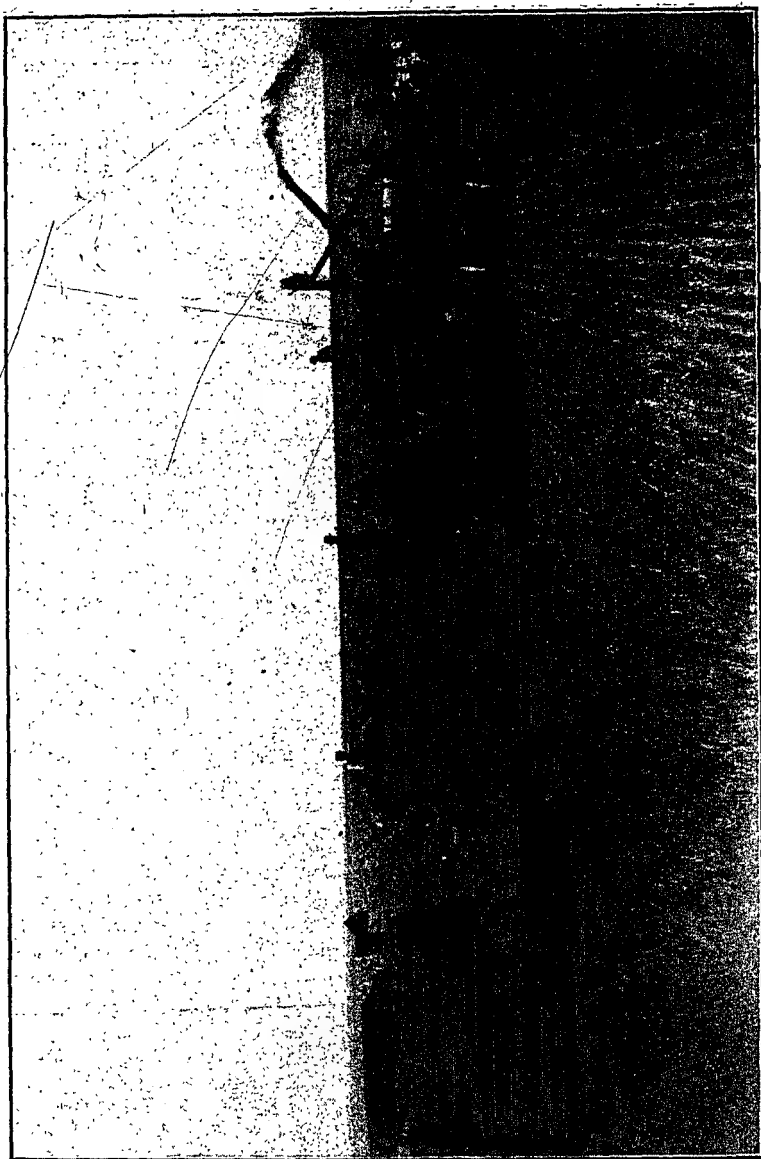
Good feed is plentiful, and there are very few days in winter when milch cows cannot be turned out to feed from the stack.

Milk delivered at the house in Lethbridge sells for 10 cents per quart and good table butter at from 30 to 40 cents per pound.

POULTRY FARMING

Mr. Cook, of the Eden Rest Poultry Farm, Lethbridge, writes as follows:

"Poultry keeping in connection with the farm or as a special business in Southern Alberta can be made very profitable if reasonable care be given the fowls.



Threshing Fall Wheat at Lethbridge

"Poultry of almost every kind is easily raised here and owing to the greater length of daylight in summer, the young can be brought to maturity much more rapidly than in the east.

"In the matter of housing, our climate is such that the fowls do better living as near the open as possible, yet having protection from the cold nights. Houses built on the open front plan are best and cheapest. The best ones are just large enough for 50 hens and the material for one costs \$27.00 in Lethbridge.

"Situated on the main line of railway connecting us with the mining and lumber industries of British Columbia, we shall always have a good market for surplus eggs and poultry. At present the local demand exceeds the supply and large quantities are imported into the district each year.

"In 1909 eggs retailed at the following prices: March and April, 35 cents per dozen; May, 25 cents; June and July, 30 cents; August and September, 40 cents; October and November, 45 cents; December, 50 cents; January, 1910, 60 cents; February 50 cents.

"During the past four years good dressed fowls have never retailed for less than 20 cents per pound, spring chickens from the time they are ready up to the middle of November 25 cents per pound, dressed, but not drawn. Turkeys with the head and feet on and not drawn sell for 25 to 32 cents per pound.

"Taking into consideration how cheaply feed can be produced and the high prices eggs and poultry sell for we feel satisfied there is no place in any country where Poultry Farming can be carried on more pleasantly and profitably than in Southern Alberta."

RAIN FALL AT LETHBRIDGE FOR EIGHT YEARS

Taken from the Government reports

	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	Av.
January	0.67	0.62	0.50	1.45	0.22	1.52	0.27	0.49	.72
February	1.03	0.79	0.90	0.05	0.20	0.30	0.75	0.28	.54
March	0.48	0.89	1.03	0.74	0.54	0.34	1.10	0.37	.69
April	0.01	0.33	0.41	0.56	1.30	1.08	0.67	1.51	.73
May	11.27	2.95	2.86	1.33	8.60	1.14	2.78	4.27	4.40
June	5.68	1.12	1.80	2.68	2.31	3.64	7.64	0.62	3.19
July	5.95	1.86	0.96	1.44	0.83	1.43	0.41	1.94	1.85
August	0.69	3.21	1.19	1.99	4.70	2.30	0.89	0.21	1.90
September	0.84	1.60	0.52	0.80	0.16	3.24	0.73	0.49	1.05
October	0.02	0.18	0.85	1.13	1.93	0.05	1.16	0.40	.71
November	0.43	0.58	0.03	1.36	0.81	0.14	0.02	0.53	.49
December	0.84	0.70	0.35	0.25	0.88	0.32	0.25	0.54	.51
	27.91	14.83	11.40	13.78	22.48	15.50	16.67	11.65	16.78

AVERAGE PER YEAR FOR THE PAST EIGHT YEARS 16.78 INCHES



Lethbridge Exhibit, National Corn Exposition, Omaha, Nebraska---December 6-18, 1909.

This yearly average however is not a true indication of the rain as it affects the growing crop and an examination of the figures will show that for the eight years the average for the month of May is 4.4 inches, for June 3.19 inches and for July 1.85 inches.

That is, the yearly average for the months when the crop is growing is 9.44 inches and this amount of rain fall at that time insures a first class crop.

WEATHER

Lethbridge is situated directly east of the Crows Nest Pass in the Rocky Mountains and through this pass gets the Chinook winds which give it a mild and fine winter; there is very little sleighing, when the snow falls the chinook soon eats it up

Fall and winter are a succession of bright sunny days with very little cold weather or storm

Owing to the influence of the chinook the crop season opens earlier in the spring and frost holds off longer in the fall than in districts immediately south or north of Lethbridge.. Plowing usually continues through November and this spring (1910) began the first week in March.

SUNSHINE

The following table showing the amount of sunshine enjoyed for the past two years will explain why this district is called SUNNY Southern Alberta:

The instrument which records the sunshine does not make a record except for BRIGHT sun, neither does it make a record for about the first hour and a half the sun is up in the morning, nor for the last hour before it sets at night, as it is not bright enough then, therefore at least two hours can be added to the table for each day.

No. of hrs.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jly.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Tl.
sun above hor'n.	267	280	370	414	480	487	491	441	378	337	270	252	4467
Reg. hrs. 1908	115	100	151	202	185	254	360	309	217	151	124	143	2311
Reg. hrs. 1909	120	123	194	231	231	302	346	379	241	186	89	102	2544

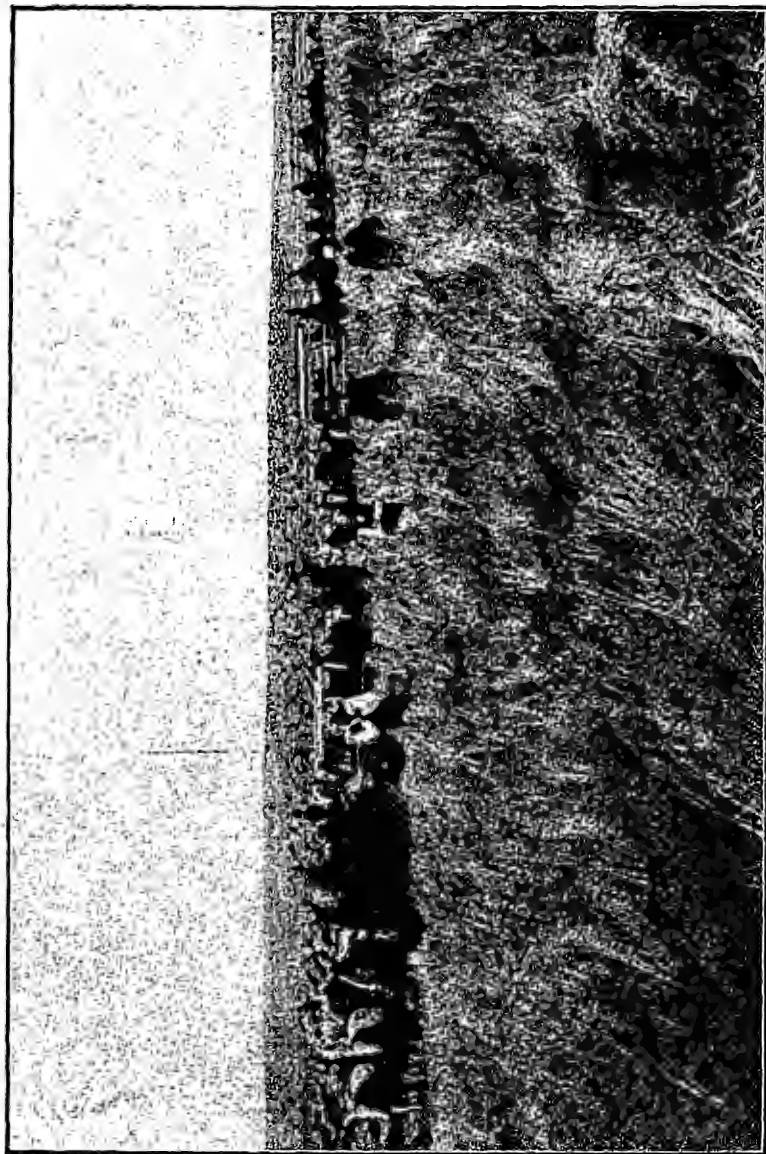
TAXES

Taxes are very small on farm property, in districts where there is no school from \$4 to \$10 per quarter section, and where there is a school from \$6 to \$16, and cannot by law exceed \$16 per quarter.

ROADS AND BRIDGES

The government takes care of the main roads and bridges and the roads are uniformly good with few or no hills.

Automobiles run the year round on them at a rate of 25 miles per hour without any difficulty, and a farmer with four light horses often brings 100 bushels of wheat 15 miles or more to the elevator.



Harvesting Alberta Red Wheat on the Farm of Mr. Jensen, 20 miles from Lethbridge. In the harvest here shown Mr. Jensen got 54,000 bushels of wheat from 1,000 acres.

SCHOOLS

A provincial university has been established at Strathcona and a Normal school for the training of teachers at Calgary and there are several high schools, one of which is at Lethbridge, and public schools are in abundance all over the province.

New schools can be easily obtained, any area not more than five miles in length or breadth having four actual residents who would be liable to assessment may be organized into a school district, provided there are in the district 12 children between the age of 5 and 16 years inclusive.

This school district can issue debentures for the purpose of raising money to build a school house, the payment of which forms the basis of the school tax on the land in the district.

The cost of maintaining the school is small as the government makes a liberal grant towards the teacher's salary, and also inspects the school twice a year to see that it is kept up to the proper standard.

FUEL

There are five large coal mines at Lethbridge where the farmer can buy coal at \$3.25 per ton. There are also a number of small mines scattered about the district where the farmer can buy coal for \$2.50 to \$3.00 per ton.

EXPERIMENTAL FARM

A great advantage to all farmers in the district is the Government Experimental Farm situated two miles from Lethbridge, and in charge of one of the best known agricultural authorities in the West, Mr. W. H. Fairfield.

Here the farmer can obtain advice and information that can be depended on to be strictly correct and which it would take the individual farmer years of toil and loss to learn for himself.

This is an important feature in this district, as its value, especially to the new settler, cannot be over estimated.

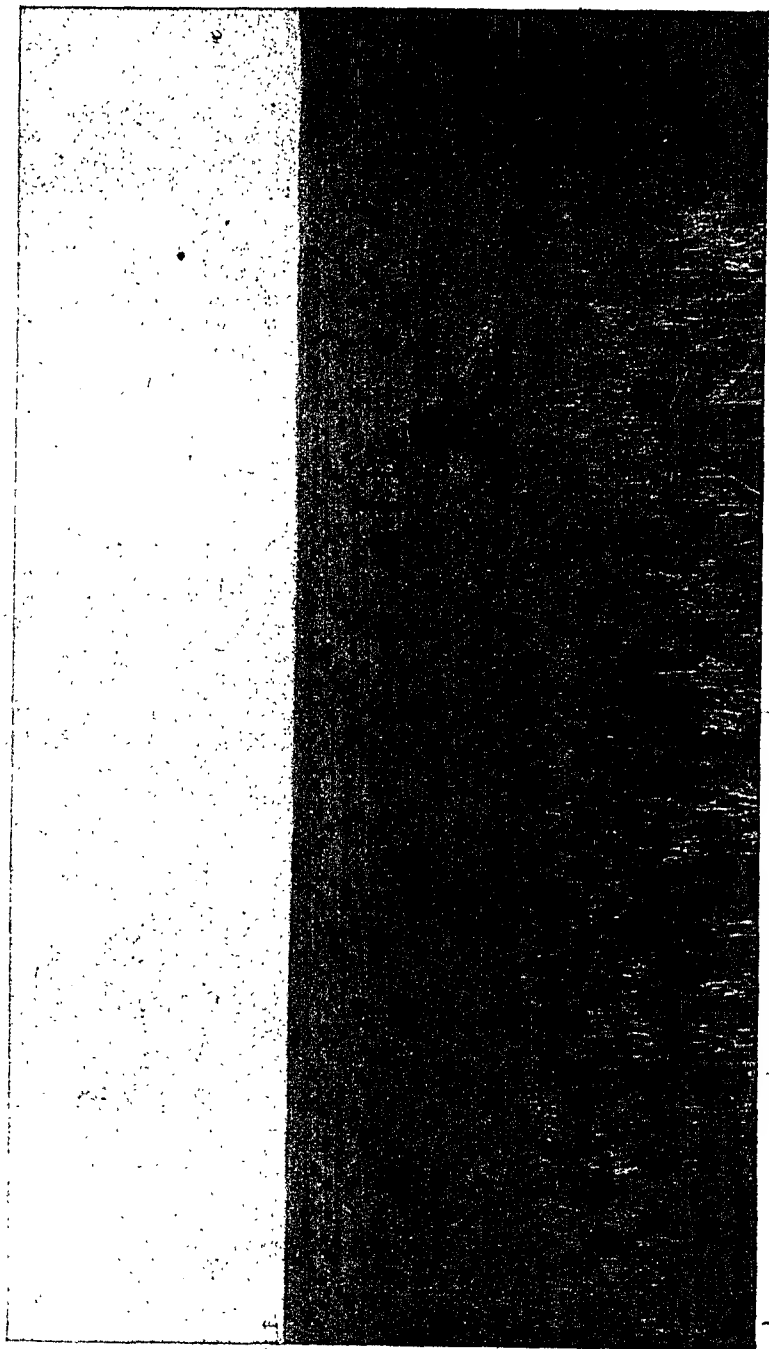
LAW AND ORDER

The Canadian laws are fair and just, and are enforced without fear or favor. The Mounted Police, the headquarters of a detachment being at Lethbridge, cover the country thoroughly and the bad man of the wild and woolly west is unknown here.

Cattle stealing and other crimes often supposed to belong with the West are rarely heard of here, and life and property are as safe as any farm in the East.

PRICES AND TERMS FOR LAND

In the district there is no railroad or government land for sale, but private individuals and land companies, of which there are a number in Lethbridge, have plenty of land for sale.



A Fine Crop. Note the Thickness of the Shocks

Prices vary according to the owner and the location of the land. Land about 25 miles from the railroad sells for \$14 to \$18; fifteen miles from the rail the price will be about \$18 to \$20; seven or eight miles from the rail, \$20 to \$25, and still nearer the rail \$25 up, this all being good wheat land.

Irrigated land sells for \$50 up.

The actual settler who will go onto the land and improve it by putting in a crop can buy on easy terms and in many cases on crop payments.

TITLES

Land titles are issued by the Government on the Torrens system, and a person holding the Government certificate of title has absolute possession and no trouble to fear from former owners, or any one else.

PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS

The following is an average price for the following articles at Lethbridge:

31-4 Farm wagon complete with brake	\$100.00
20 Marker single disc drill	140.00
8 ft. Binder with tongue truck	180.00
5 ft. Mower	64.00
12 ft. Self dump rake	40.00
Combination stubble and breaker walking plow	29.00
14 in. Sulky plow	50.00
14 in. Gang plow	75.00
10 Bottom big engine gang	830.00
8 Bottom big engine gang	715.00
20 Horsepower gas tractor	2350.00
16/16 Disc harrow complete with tongue truck	55.00
60 Tooth drag, complete with draw bar	16.00
Fanning mills	40.00

PRICES OF LUMBER

Dimension per thousand	25.00
No. 2 boards, per thousand	20.00
No. 3 boards, per thousand	16.00
Clear XXX Cedar shingles, per thousand	3.75

PRICES OF LIVE STOCK

1,000 pound Horses, prairie raised, each	100.00
1,500 pound Horses, prairie raised, each	175.00
Mares 15 to 25 per cent, higher	
Good cows	50.00
Hogs, live weight, per lb.	8c



Sunny Southern Alberta Winter Wheat, Pulled October 8th, 1909

HOMESTEADS

In the Lethbridge land district there are some 12,000 homesteads still available, they are 60 or 70 miles from the city and 30 or 40 miles from a railroad, but the building of projected railroads will bring many of them nearer the rail in the next two or three years.

A synopsis of the Canadian regulations regarding homesteads is as follows:

Any person who is the sole head of a family, or any male over 18 years old, may homestead a quarter-section of available Dominion land in Manitoba, Saskatchewan or Alberta. The applicant must appear in person at the Dominion Lands Agency or Sub-Agency for the district. Entry by proxy may be made at any agency on certain conditions, by father, mother, son, daughter, brother or sister of intending homesteader.

Duties—Six months' residence upon and cultivation of the land in each of three years. A homesteader may live within nine miles of his homestead on a farm of at least 80 acres solely owned and occupied by him or by his father, mother, son, daughter, brother or sister.

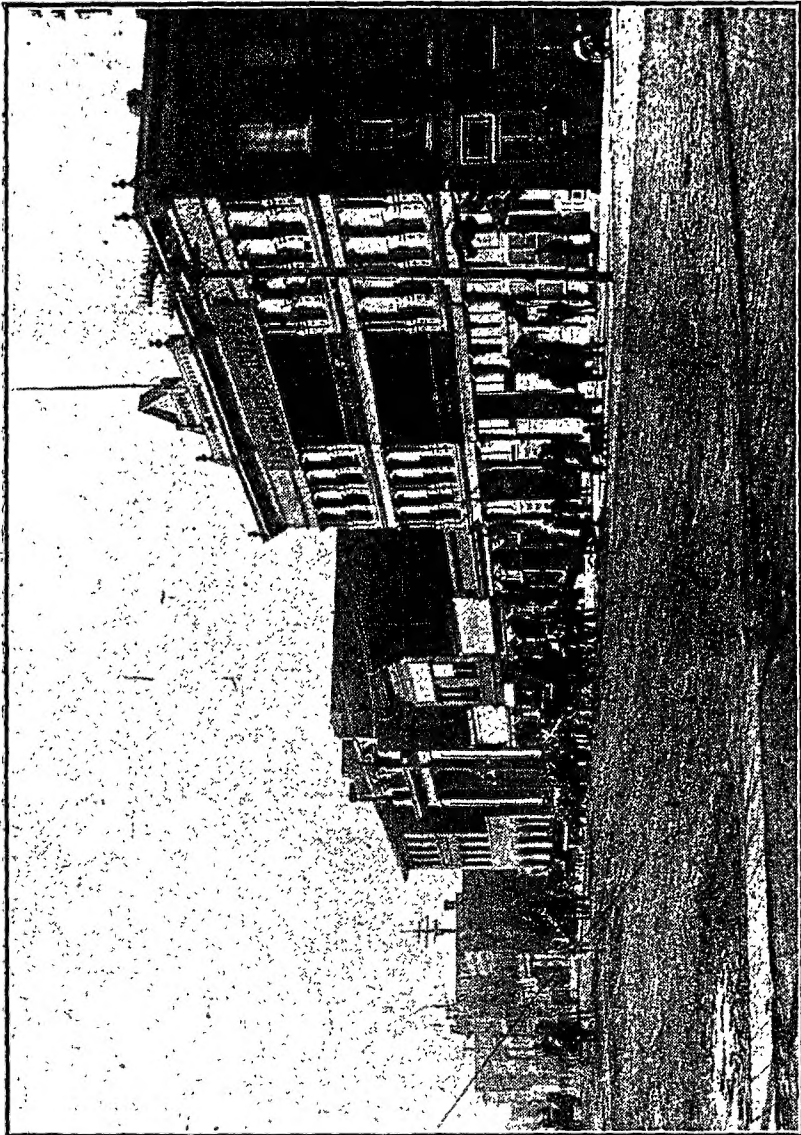
In certain districts a homesteader in good standing may pre-empt a quarter-section alongside his homestead. Price \$3.00 per acre. **Duties**—Must reside six months in each of six years from date of homestead entry (including the one required to earn homestead patent) and cultivate fifty acres extra.

A homesteader who has exhausted his homestead right and cannot obtain a pre-emption may take a purchased homestead in certain districts. Price \$3.00 per acre. **Duties**—Must reside six months in each of three years, cultivate fifty acres and erect a house worth \$300.00.

CUSTOMS REGULATIONS FOR THE SETTLER

The Customs tariff provides for the free entry of settlers effects as follows, it being understood that "live stock for the farm" means not more than 16 head.

Clause 705—Wearing apparel, books, usual and reasonable household furniture and other household effects; instruments and tools of trade, occupation or employment, guns, musical instruments, domestic sewing machines, typewriters, bicycles, carts, wagons and other highway vehicles; agricultural implements and live stock for the farm, not to include live stock or articles for sale, or for use as a contractors outfit, nor vehicles nor implements moved by mechanical power, nor machinery for use in any manufacturing establishment; all the foregoing if actually owned abroad by the settler for at least six months before his removal to Canada and subject to the regulations prescribed by the Minister of Customs; Provided that any dutiable article entered as settlers effects may not be so entered unless brought by the settler on his first arrival and shall not be sold or otherwise disposed of without payment of duty until after twelve months actual use in Canada.



View of Round Street, Lethbridge

CITY OF LETHBRIDGE

The City of Lethbridge is situated in the centre of Sunny Southern Alberta and is the metropolis of the district.

By rail it is 993 miles or 30 hours run from Minneapolis, 763 miles from Winnipeg, 1,483 miles from Chicago, 1,590 miles from St. Louis, 1,356 miles from Omaha, 1,553 miles from Kansas City.

It is a modern progressive up-to-date City of 11,000 population.

Has Municipal owned electric light and power plant, water and sewage system and up-to-date fire brigade and police department.

Wide streets, good cement sidewalks, boulevards and trees.

Churches, Schools, Lodges, Hospitals, Theaters, Business Houses, and Homes, such as are usually found in a modern city.

\$60,000 Y. M. C. A. building now being built.

A Daily newspaper and a second just starting, 10 Banks representing a capital of over \$86,000,000 and another now building.

Building permits for 1909 \$1,268,215.

Pay Roll over \$200,000 per month.

5 large Coal Mines within 5 miles of the city.

Has openings for all kinds of business and manufacturing.

Increased its population 66 per cent last year.

Is the coming City of Alberta.

For further information regarding city or district write the Board of Trade Lethbridge, Alberta,

INDEX

Dry and Irrigated Farming	3	Taxes	15
The Grain Crop	3	Roads and Bridges	15
Preparation for First Crop	5	Schools	17
Cost of First Crop	5	Fuel	17
Price of Grain	7	Experimental Farm	17
Alfalfa	7	Law and Order	17
Sugar Beets	7	Prices and Terms for Land	17
Small Fruits	9	Titles	19
Market Gardens	11	Prices of Implements	19
Kitchen Gardens	11	Prices of Lumber	19
Dairy Farming	11	Prices of Live Stock	19
Poultry Farming	11	Homesteads	21
Rainfall	13	Customs Regulations	21
Weather	15	City of Lethbridge	23
Sunshine	15		



A Stool of Sunny Southern Alberta Oats

